



U.S. Department of Justice

**United States Attorney's Office
Eastern District of Virginia**

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News Release

**For Immediate Release
Alexandria, Virginia
November 9, 2004**

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Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced the guilty plea today of John W. Dahlquist, age 41, of Alexandria, to an indictment charging him with impersonation of a federal police officer and carrying a loaded weapon in an area under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. Dahlquist will be sentenced by the Honorable Gerald Bruce Lee, United States District Court Judge, on January 7, 2005. He faces a maximum sentence of three and a half years of imprisonment and a maximum fine of \$250,000.

These charges stem from an investigation after U.S. Park Police officers discovered Dahlquist in his car on the George Washington Memorial Parkway near Belle Haven, stopped behind a stranded motor vehicle on October 7, 2004. Officers observed that Dahlquist had a flashing blue light in his Hyundai Santa Fe similar to that used by law enforcement. Park Police officers learned that Dahlquist had identified himself to the driver of the stranded motor vehicle as a police officer. He presented a badge and false credentials and identified himself to police as a federal police officer. He claimed to work for the Defense Intelligence Agency. That agency has confirmed Dahlquist has never been so employed.

When Dahlquist was arrested by the U.S. Park Police, he had in his possession a fully loaded semi-automatic handgun and 46 rounds of ammunition.

Mr. McNulty stated: "This is a very disturbing case. The public should have confidence in our law enforcement officers, and Dahlquist's actions have undermined that confidence. We are looking for other citizens who may have been victimized by this defendant."

This case was investigated by the United States Park Police and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Erik R. Barnett.